

In the claims:

Please amend the claims in accordance with the following listing:

1. (Currently amended) An articulated orthosis having a first and a second hinged shell parts, the orthosis having an inner and outer surfaces, and at least one joint for hinging the first and second shell parts, the orthosis comprising:
 - a tension element having a first anchor point coupled to the first hinged shell part and a second anchor point coupled to the second hinged shell part, the tension element having at least one generally flat outer surface which is substantially co-planar to the inner surface of the orthosis adjacent to the tension element;
 - a first and a second compression surfaces coupled to the first and second shell respectively;
 - a compression element comprising a first block of resilient material, disposed between the compression surfaces;
 - wherein the compression surfaces are located so as to transmit forces to the compression element as a result of angular motion between the first and second hinged shell parts, the forces being operable to compress the compression element;
 - wherein the compression element and tension elements form a joint which is located posteriorly and superiorly to the anatomical joint .
2. (Cancelled.)
3. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein said tension element has an overall bending stiffness in the range between 0.02 and 1.3 Nm.

4. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein at an unloaded condition the angle between the first and second hinged shell parts is variable by the dimensions of the compression element.
5. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein resistance to moment force applied to at least one of the hinged shell parts is variable by the modulus of elasticity of the compression element.
6. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein the tension element has an adjustable effective length, for allowing relative angular adjustment of the hinged shell parts.
7. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed claim 1, wherein at least one of the hinged shell parts has a plurality of retaining walls for forming a chamber to at least partially contain the compression element, and wherein the tension element defines a boundary of the chamber.
8. (Original) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 7 wherein at least one of said retaining walls is movable for changing the dimensions of the chamber.
9. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of said compression surfaces is adjustable.
10. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 2, wherein the compression element further comprises a second block of resilient material having a higher modulus of elasticity than the modulus of elasticity of the first block, the second block disposed between at least a portion of the first and second hinged shell parts, so as to be compressed as result of angular motion therebetween, after compression has been applied to the first block.
11. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 7 wherein the compression element is freely disposed within the chamber.
12. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein the tension element comprises anchor points transverse to the flat side.
13. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compression surfaces are integral to at least one of the hinged shell parts.

14. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compression element is selected from a list consisting of a, jell cell, pneumatic container, hydraulic cell, or a combination thereof.
15. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein said tension element has an overall bending stiffness of between 0.08 and 0.9 Nm.
16. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein said tension element has an overall bending stiffness of between 0.2 and 0.5 Nm.
17. (Previously presented) An articulated orthosis as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least part of the tension element is integral to one of the hinged shell parts.
- 18-26 (cancelled)